

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 EB-05 RSC-01 /013 R

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DRAFTED BY APSOLGA/EM

EPWALINSKY, DIR PPD/OEA/BEWT

APPROVED BY EB/OCA/REP-LHPOMEROY

EB/EWT-LLESE

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R 182021Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129968

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN LICENSING CONTROLS OF FLATBED PLOTTERS

1. USG CURRENTLY HAS UNDER REVIEW APPLICATION TO EXPORT A FLATBED PLOTTER FOR USE IN PRODUCTION AMONG OTHER THINGS OF PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD MASKS TO AN EASTERN EUROPEAN BLOC DESTINATION. USG HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT GENERALLY COMPARABLE EQUIPMENT PRODUCED BY NORWEGIAN FIRM, A.S. KONGSBERG, HAS BEEN EXPORTED TO EASTERN BLOC DESTINATIONS. U.S. COMPANY IDENTIFIED PLOTTER AS ESSI KONGSBERG MODE 1215 FLATBED PLOTTER.

2. IN VIEW OF AMBIGUITY THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS IN COCOM OVER EMBARGO COVERAGE OF THIS TYPE OF EQUIPMENT AND IN ORDER TO ASSIST USG LICENSING OFFICIALS TO ARRIVE AT APPROPRIATE DECISION IN THIS CASE, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN FROM NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON EXPEDITIOUS BASIS:

A) DO NORWEGIAN LICENSING OFFICIALS CONSIDER THE ESSI KONGSBERG MODEL 1215 FLATBED PLOTTER COVERED BY ITEM IL 1355(B)(5) ON THE COCOM EMBARGO LIST? IF NOT, WHY NOT?

B) DO NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS CONSIDER ANY PHOTOPLOTTERS TO BE

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3. INFORMATION FURNISHED US BY U.S. COMPANY LISTS A TOTAL OF 10 KONGSBERG PLOTTERS IN EAST GERMANY, POLAND, AND CZECH-OSLOVAKIA. ADDITIONALLY, U.S. VISITORS TO POLAND HAVE SEEN A KONGSBERG PLOTTER AT UNITRA, IN WARSAW. THE LATTER IS A MANUFACTURER OF SEMI-CONDUCTOR DEVICES, AND WOULD THEREFORE UTILIZE THIS MACHINERY FOR THE KINDS OF PRODUCTION THAT CAUSE THE MACHINERY TO BE UNDE COCOM CONTROL. COULD YOU DETERMINE IF NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES ARE AWARE OF SHIPMENT OF THE PLOTTER TO POLAND, AND IF THEY ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE TRANSACTION. BROWN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE129968
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740159-0468
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740635/aaaabdnm.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORWEGIAN LICENSING CONTROLS OF FLATBED PLOTTERS
TAGS: ESTC, NO, COCOM
To: OSLO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005